

CLAIMS

1. An updatable electronic device comprising:
 - a memory comprising at least one of firmware and software;
 - at least one firmware component, functioning to update at least a portion of at least one of firmware and software;
 - an interface for communicatively coupling to a removable electronic memory device; and
 - the removable electronic memory device comprising information related to the updating of the at least a portion of the at least one of firmware and software.
2. The device of claim 1 wherein the at least one firmware component comprises:
 - an update agent for updating the at least a portion of the at least one of firmware and software, the update agent using at least one of an update package and the information related to the updating of the at least one of firmware and software.
3. The device of claim 2 further comprising:
 - a communication interface for receiving the update package.
4. The device of claim 3 wherein the communication interface is a wireless communication interface.
5. The device of claim 2 wherein the update package comprises a set of instructions for updating the at least a portion of the at least one firmware and software.
6. The device of claim 1 wherein the information related to the updating of the at least one firmware and software comprises at least one of a cyclic redundancy check (CRC), a location in a file system, a memory address, a status flag, and new firmware.
7. The device of claim 1 wherein the information related to the updating of the at least one firmware and software comprises an indication of the availability of an update for the at least one of a firmware and software.

8. The device of claim 1 wherein the information related to the updating of the at least one firmware and software comprises an indication of the success of an update of the at least one of firmware and software.

9. The device of claim 1 wherein the information related to the updating of the at least one firmware and software is used to verify or authenticate an update of the at least one of firmware and software.

10. The device of claim 1 wherein the removable electronic memory device comprises one of a subscriber identity module (SIM) card, a smart card, an integrated circuit (IC) card, a removable memory card, and a removable memory module.

11. A method of updating an updatable electronic device comprising a memory containing at least one of firmware and software, and a user removable electronic memory device, the method comprising:

- retrieving information from the user removable electronic memory device;
- determining whether an update of the at least one of firmware and software is available using information from the user removable electronic memory device;
- performing an update of at least a portion of the at least one of firmware and software using at least information from the user removable electronic memory device, if an update of the firmware is available; and
- refraining from performing an update of at least a portion of the at least one of firmware and software, if an update of the firmware is not available.

12. The method of claim 11 wherein the user removable electronic memory device comprises one of a subscriber identity module (SIM) card, a smart card, an integrated circuit card, a removable memory card, and a removable memory module.

13. The method of claim 11 wherein the updatable electronic device is a mobile handset.

14. The method of claim 11 wherein the information from the user removable electronic memory device comprises at least one of a signature, a location in a file system, a memory address, a status flag, and new firmware.

15. The method of claim 14 wherein the signature comprises a cyclic redundancy check (CRC).

16. The method of claim 11 wherein the information from the user removable electronic memory device comprises an indication of the availability of an update for the at least a portion of the at least one of a firmware and software.

17. The method of claim 11 wherein the information from the user removable electronic memory device is used to verify or authenticate an update of the at least a portion of the at least one of a firmware and software.

18. The method of claim 11 further comprising:
receiving an update package from a server; and
the update package comprising a set of instructions for updating the at least a portion of the at least one firmware and software.

19. The method of claim 11 wherein:
the receiving is performed using a wireless network; and
the information from the user removable electronic memory device comprises the location of at least one of the update package and the server.

20. The method of claim 11 further comprising:
storing status information in the user removable electronic memory device, if an update was performed; and
refraining from storing status information in the user removable electronic memory device, if an update was not performed.

21. The method of claim 11 further comprising:
performing at least one of restarting or rebooting the updatable electronic device.

22. The method of claim 21 wherein at least one of a need to restart or reboot and a type of reboot is resident in the user removable electronic memory device.

23. The method of claim 11 wherein the determining comprises:

verifying whether the retrieved information is at least one of appropriate and authentic;

continuing the performance of an update, if the verification is successful; and

executing a normal startup of the updatable electronic device, if the verification is not successful.